

Message Text

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45/43

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01

RSC-01 /025 W
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R 250830Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4612

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 DAKAR 4263

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OREP, SG, US, PFOR, EGEN, ETRD, EAID
SUBJ: CODEL PATMAN: REPORT ON MEETING WITH SENGHOR
AND GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF VISIT

DEPT PASS TREASURY

REF: DAKAR 4225: DAKAR 4257

1. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, CODEL VISIT MADE VERY POSITIVE
CONTRIBUTION TO SENECALESE-US RELATIONS AND TOOK PLACE
WITHOUT ANY ADMINISTRATIVE HITCHES. HIGHLIGHT WAS MEETING
WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR FRIDAY, SEPT 21 FROM WHICH
CODEL EMERGED WITH HIGHLY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF
PRESIDENT AND SENGHOR APPARENTLY EMERGED EQUALLY PLEASED
WITH INTEREST, WARMTH AND ATTENTION OF CODEL.

2. SENGHOR GAVE ONE-HALF HOUR PRESENTATION TO CODEL
FOLLOWED BY QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD. PRESENTATION WAS
CLEARLY THOUGHT OUT IN ADVANCE AND DESIGNED TO GET ACROSS
SPECIFIC POINTS OF RELEVANCE TO US-SENECALESE RELATIONS:

A. SENEGAL SEEKS US PRIVATE INVESTMENT. WILL NOT
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NATIONALIZE FOREIGN INVESTMENT. WANTS

SENEGALIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT BUT WILL WORK OUT
IN RATIONAL MANNER;

B. SENEGAL AT INDEPENDENCE HAD 90 PERCENT OF
ITS TRADE WITH FRANCE, NOW IT IS 50 PERCENT,
THE GOAL IS 30 PERCENT;

C. SENEGAL ALSO LOOKS TO US FOR ASSISTANCE
IN APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AND SOURCE OF
MANAGEMENT TRAINING;

D. SENEGAL WANTS ITS EDUCATED ELITE TO BE
PROFICIENT IN ENGLISH (SENGHOR SPOKE FOR
SEVERAL MINUTES IN GOOD ENGLISH TO WELCOME THE
DELEGATION AND DID NOT REQUIRE TRANSLATION OF
VIRTUALLY ANY OF QUESTIONS POSED BY CODEL;

E. SENEGAL ONLY USES HALF AS MANY FRENCH ADVISORS
AS DOES IVORY COAST.

SENGHOR OBVIOUSLY INTENDED MAKE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR HIS DESIRE
FOR EXPANDED ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH US AND IMPLIED HE
WELCOMED CONCOMITANT LESSENING OF FRENCH INFLUENCE.

3. WITH REGARD TO DROUGHT, SENGHOR, WHILE POINTING OUT
SENEGAL'S CONTINUING NEEDS, EXPRESSED WITH GREAT SINCERITY
HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE LEADING ROLE US HAS TAKEN IN
RELIEF EFFORTS. HE DESCRIBED BURDENS SEVEN YEARS OF
DROUGHT HAD PLACED ON SENEGALESE ECONOMY BUT STRESSED
SENEGAL'S INTENTION TO BE AS SELF-RELIANT AS POSSIBLE.
THUS HE NOTED, SENEGAL DOES NOT REQUEST THAT IT BE A
PARTY TO THE DEBT MORATORIUM REQUESTED BY THE OTHER
SAHELIAN STATES, ALTHOUGH IT DOES SUPPORT THEIR REQUEST.
SENGHOR ALSO NOTED HIS COMMITMENTS TO DEMOCRACY AND
NON-ALIGNMENT DURING COURSE OF MEETING.

4. CODEL IN QUESTION PERIOD MADE CLEAR INTEREST OF
MEMBERS IN DROUGHT RELIEF AND IN SPECIFIC WAYS WHICH US
INVESTMENT COULD BE EXPANDED IN SENEGAL. AT CLOSE OF
MEETING AFTER ALL HAD ARISEN FROM THEIR SEATS A QUESTION
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ABOUT TAPESTRY HANGING IN MEETING ROOM LED TO A WARM
DISCUSSION ON INFORMAL BASIS OF SENEGALESE CULTURE WHICH
EXTENDED INTO RECEPTION AREA WHERE MANY PICTURES TEAKEN
AND DISCUSSION PROLONGED.

5. SUBSEQUENT VISIT WITH PRIME MINISTER DIOUF WAS NOT

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AS VALUABLE FOR EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AS VISIT WITH
PRESIDENT BUT IT WAS OCCASION FOR CONSIDERABLE EXPRESSIONS
OF WARMTH BETWEEN CODEL AND GOS OFFICIALS PRESENT. AS
SEVERAL MEMBERS NOTED, PRIME MINISTER WAS ABLE TO MAKE
IMPRESSION AS SERIOUS AND INTELLIGENT LEADER, DIOUF,
HOWEVER, APPARENTLY AFRAID OF GOING OVER SAME GROUND
COVERED BY PRESIDENT, AND SO GAVE SHORT PRESENTATION.

6. VISITS TO DAKAR PORT, FRIDAY, AND SENEGALESE RAILWAYS
AT THIES, SATURDAY, ALSO WENT WELL, WITH EXCELLENT
BRIEFINGS BY SENEGALESE OFFICIALS AND SERIES OF RELEVANT
QUESTIONS BY CODEL. ROLE OF IBRD LOANS CLEARLY BROUGHT OUT
BY GOS OFFICIALS WHO ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR IBRD
AID AND ROLE US CONGRESS PLAYS IN APPROPRIATING US
CONTRIBUTIONS TO IBRD.

7. EARLY FRIDAY, CODEL MEMBERS ALSO MET PRESIDENT OF
SENEGALESE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. DESPITE LACK OF REST
AFFORDED CODEL THAT MORNING VISIT WAS QUITE SUCCESSFUL.
CODEL AND EMBASSY OFFICERS AS WELL WERE IMPRESSED WITH
DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF SENEGALESE ECONOMY AND DROUGHT
SITUATION DISPLAYED BY ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT AMADOU CISSE DIA.
IN TACTFUL MANNER, DIA EXPRESSED SENEGALE'S NEED FOR FURTHER
AID AND CONGRESSMEN RESPONDED BY ACKNOWLEDGING CONCERN OF
AMERICAN PEOPLE. DIA ALSO REPEATEDLY MADE PITCH FOR MORE
LENGTHY AND OFFICIAL VISIT OF US CONGRESSMEN WHICH WAS
SIDESTEPPED BY CODEL.

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8. SATURDAY MECHOU (TRADITIONAL LUNCH) OFFERED BY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADAMA N'DIAYE WAS WELCOMED BY CONGRESSMEN. IN FRIENDLY GESTURE, N'DIAYE AND OTHER SENEGALESE ACCOMPANIED CODEL AFTER LUNCH OF LEISURELY TOUR OF GOREE ISLAND. CONGENIAL INTERMINGLING OF CODEL, SENEGALESE AND FOREIGN GUESTS ALSO CHARACTERIZED EMBASSY RECEPTION FRIDAY EVENING.

9. PRESS TREATMENT OF CODEL WAS FAVORABLE AND EXTENSIVE INCLUDING COVERAGE BOTH BEFORE AND DURING VISIT. SIMILAR TREATMENT ACCORDED VISIT BY RADIO SENEGAL. SUBSTANCE OF ARRIVAL STATEMENT PUBLISHED LE SOLEIL FRIDAY. SATURDAY COVERAGE INCLUDED TWO ARTICLES AND TWO PHOTOS, ONE OF EACH ON FRONT PAGE. CAPTION ON ONE ARTICLE PARAPHRASES CONGRESSMEN REUSS AS SAYING "UNITED STATES WOULD BE FAVORABLE TO A MARSHALL PLAN FOR THE SAHEL". REPORTER HEARD WHAT HE WANTED TO HEAR. WHAT REUSS SAID WAS THAT WORLD NOW AWAITED INITIATIVE OF STATESMEN WITH SAME VISION AS GENERAL MARSHALL. IN CONTEXT, DOUBT WHETHER REPORTER'S ENTHUSIASM WILL CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS HERE. ARTICLE UNDER CAPTION IS FAIRLY ACCURATE REPORTAGE OF PRESS CONFERENCE WITH REUSS AND EVENTS OF CODEL'S VISIT. (SEE REFTELS)

10. CODEL SEEMED GENUINELY PLEASED WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT AND UNDERSTANDING WITH REGARD TO BURDENOME ITINERARY. DESPITE FATIGUING FLIGHT THURSDAY NIGHT, MEMBERS WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO MEET OBLIGATIONS PLACED ON THEM BY A TIGHT SCHEDULE. FREINDLY AND APPRECIATIVE STATEMENTS MADE BY CONGRESSMAN REUSS, CONGRESSMAN STANTON AND OTHERS WERE VERY WELL RECEIVED BY GOS OFFICIALS HOSTING VARIOUS EVENTS. IN SUM, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW VISIT COULD NOT HAVE GONE OFF BETTER.

11. REPORTING SEPTEL RESULTS OF VISIT BY CONGRESSMEN REUSS AND YOUNG TO PEACE CORPS PROJECTS POUT.
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